

WHAT IS DISCIPLESHIP AT HOME?

Having youth group meet at church may not be an option right now, but the core purpose of youth group—discipleship—is still very much an option. Whether you're meeting virtually or empowering parents to disciple their child, we want to offer resources that will help students grow spiritually. *Discipleship at Home* is simply that—a resource for youth workers and small group leaders to virtually meet with their students or a resource for families to use together. Whether online or in person, *Discipleship at Home* will help you continue the work of growing students into mature disciples.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- 8 Lessons, each based on a core discipleship principle (root) listed below (only one lesson included in this sample)
- Each lesson includes a video, short study, discussion questions, and a prayer prompt.
- Use this during a virtual youth group or small group meeting, or an in-person meeting.
- These lessons are also the perfect way to support parents in their role of Primary Faith Influencer. Send them this content and equip them to disciple their own child!

SCOPE & SEQUENCE

1. The Rescue Root

We are slaves, held captive by terrible enemies: sin and death. In this fallen, corrupt, and shattered world, we need a rescuer—Jesus, our Savior and Redeemer. In fact, he's the only one who can free us. And once we've been freed, we have the opportunity to join in the rescue mission for others.

The Rescue Root helps students understand their need for a Savior.

2. The Identity Root

God created humans in his own image, unique in all creation. Then sin entered the picture, and all people developed a warped version of their original identity. Christ came and died on the cross and rose again to offer us a new identity, even better than the first. He took on our sin and shame so we could take on his righteousness. He identifies with us so we can find our identity in him—a redeemed identity.

The Identity Root helps students discover their unique identity in Christ.

3. The Community Root

We weren't created to be alone. Our emotional, physical, and spiritual well-beings depend on deep, loving relationships with other people. God has created a family for you. They are his people, and they will help you grow in another essential connection—with God.

The Community Root helps students understand the meaning of biblical fellowship.

4. The Apologetics Root

The Bible encourages us to defend our faith: "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect," (1 Pet. 3:15, ESV). That's the point of apologetics—to explain our hope in Christ to others. In the Apologetics Root your students will find ways to do just that.

The Apologetics Root prepares students to explain the hope they have in Christ.

5. The Kingdom Root

When students embrace the Kingdom life, they begin to look at the small things differently. They realize the weight that their decisions carry, and they can start to live by God's value system instead of the world's tainted values.

The Kingdom Root helps students understand how to live in the Kingdom of God every day.

6. The Outreach Root

Jesus gave his followers one last command: to spread the good news of his death and resurrection—the gospel—to the whole world. When we become members of Christ's body of believers, the story doesn't end. That's just the beginning! Now we get to join in a remarkable mission to care for the least, to love other people, and to share Jesus as Lord wherever we go.

The Outreach Root helps students understand their God-given mission.

7. The Knowledge Root

God is enormous. He's too big, too awesome, and too complicated to wrap our minds around. Yet he wants us to know him. He wants a relationship with us, so he has revealed himself in a number of ways. We will never know everything about God. But in order to become his disciples, we need to know some essential truths about the One we follow.

The Knowledge Root helps students understand the basics about who God is.

8. The Worship Root

Worship is more than just singing. It is a lifestyle. It's how you go about your day, and it happens when you get a vivid glimpse of God, his power, and his majesty. In the Bible, anyone who has a close encounter with God can't help but marvel at his glory. The angels, his messengers, are in a constant state of worship. We, too, can express a life of worship by encountering God on a daily basis.

The Worship Root helps students explore what it means to have a lifestyle of worship.

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

Option 1: Virtual Meeting

If your group is meeting virtually, simply send the Student Guide pdf to each participant ahead of time or at the beginning of your meeting (the Facilitator Guide has a few extra notes just for you). During your meeting, you can show the video through your meeting app, or have students follow the content and links provided in the Student Guide so they can watch it on their own screens.

Option 2: In-person Meeting or Family Setting

If you are meeting in person or using this curriculum in a family setting, make sure you have a screen (with internet connection) so everyone can see the video. The Facilitator Guide has extra tips for you, and the Student Guide has all the core content. Discussion questions go great with favorite snacks, and in a family setting consider answering the discussion questions along with your child—this will build trust and vulnerability.

A NOTE TO PARENTS

We realize that you, as parents, are the primary faith influencers in your child's life. The best disciple-making takes place when students' parents take the lead. If you are using this resource at home with your family, here's a few things you can do in order to get the most out of it:

- Answer the discussion questions along with your child(ren). Start off the discussion by answering the question yourself. This will build trust, vulnerability, and will also set the stage for having in-depth spiritual conversations.
- Consider spreading some of the discussion questions out throughout your day—making it seem less like school and more like life. Ask a question or two during dinner (or dinner prep), in the car, or if your family is taking a walk/hike. You could also consider getting comfy and having favorite snacks when you do this. Or use this as a resource for your family devotional time.

THE COMMUNITY ROOT OVERVIEW

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WATCH THIS VIDEO

COMMUNITY ROOT VIDEO: vimeo.com/leadertreks/community

2–3 minutes

3 WAYS TO WATCH:

- Watch the video together on the same screen.
- Have students click on the link in their Student Guide to watch on their own before starting your discussion.
- Show the video using your virtual group hangout app (e.g., FaceBook Live, Zoom, Google Hangout, etc.).

READ & DISCUSS

READ THE FOLLOWING TOGETHER

15–20 minutes

If someone were to ask you whether or not your community of friends was healthy, what would you tell them? In fact, what do you think are the characteristics that make up a healthy community of friends? Write them below:

[DISCUSS]

As a community of Christ followers, what should describe our relationships? We all know that loving one another is vital. In fact, the New Testament alone tells us over 14 times to "love one another." But how exactly does that love portray itself? How do we "love one another?" In the Bible, we are told many ways we should interact with other believers. Jesus, Paul, and Peter all tell us to serve one another, accept one another, and pray for one another. The list goes on and on. For us to truly live in community, we must be committed to all forms of "one another" ministry.

Take a look at some of the "one another's" for community found in the New Testament:

Love one another (John 15:10)	Be at peace with each other (Mark 9:50)	Serve one another (1 Pet. 4:10)
Encourage one another (1 Thess. 5:11)	Be patient with everyone (1 Thess. 5:14)	Forgive one another (Col. 3:13)
Build each other up (1 Thess. 5:11)	Be kind and compassionate to one another (Eph. 4:32)	Instruct one another (Rom. 15:14)
Accept one another (Rom. 15:7)	Live in harmony with one another (Rom. 12:16)	Bear with one another (Col. 3:13)
Do not judge one another (Rom. 14:13)	Be devoted to one another (Rom. 12:10)	Pray for one another (James 5:16)
Confess to one another (James 5:16)	Honor one another above yourselves (Rom. 12:10)	

- Which of these "one anothers" do you see playing a role in your community of friends? Circle the top 3.

FACILITATOR NOTE: Based on the circumstances, ask this question about other communities as well— families, youth group as a whole, sports and creative teams, etc.

- Which of these "one anothers" do you think you need to work on the most and why? Underline the top 2.
- This week, how will you grow in the areas you underlined above? Be specific—a good application will tell who, what, and when.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?	WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO DO IT?	WHO CAN KEEP YOU ACCOUNTABLE?

FACILITATOR NOTE: Help students make applications that are specific and measurable. It's one thing for a student to tell you they need to love their little brother more. It's another for a student to say that tomorrow afternoon, they will play baseball for an hour with their brother because they know it's his favorite game.

PRAY

RESPOND IN PRAYER

5–10 minutes

Spend some time praying for the communities that each student is involved in. Pray for patience and the perseverance to truly love one another even when it's hard.

THE TAKEAWAY

Everyone needs to be part of a community that helps them grow and connect with God.

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